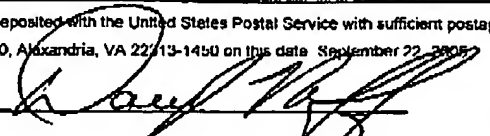


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date September 22, 2005	
Name of Depositor	Daryl K. Neff
Signature	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	
In re application of: Donald J. Delehanty et al.	Date: September 22, 2005
Serial Number: 10/605,610	Examiner: Patricia A. George
Filed: October 13, 2003	Group Art Unit: 1765
Title: PLANARIZATION SYSTEM AND METHOD USING A CARBONATE CONTAINING FLUID	Todd M.C. Li IBM Corporation Dept. 18G, Bldg. 321, Zip 482 2070 Route 52 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Restriction Requirement dated August 22, 2005, the Examiner requires restriction to one of two patentably distinct inventions:

Group I, claims 1-18 drawn to a method; and

Group II, claims 19-21 drawn to apparatus.

In response, Applicants elect the Group I claims 1-18 for examination without traverse.

In addition, the Examiner requires restriction to one of two patentably distinct species of the invention:

Species I, in which the pH controlling substance is a base; and

Species II, in which the pH controlling substance is an acid.

In response, Applicants elect Species I, on which at least claims 1-3 and 5-18 are readable.

An amendment is submitted together with this response.

Prompt examination of this application is respectfully requested.

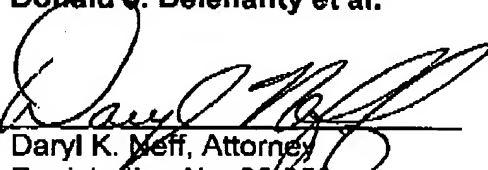
FIS920020214US1

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this response.
However, if any fee is due, please debit the Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of the
Assignee International Business Machines Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Delehanty et al.

By



Daryl K. Neff, Attorney

Registration No. 38,253

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